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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
SUBJECT: Language Development Program

1. On 4 February 1960 the Agency's Language Development Program will have its third anniversary. As a result of this program, large numbers of Agency employees have been encouraged to increase and maintain competencies in foreign languages. Many have done so in courses given during official duty hours. Even greater numbers have participated in voluntary off-duty training. For example, during the last fiscal year:

130 employees completed full-time on-duty language courses.  
480 employees completed part-time on-duty language courses.  
704 employees completed off-duty language courses at Headquarters.

[redacted] engaged in off-duty language courses overseas.  
26% of the employees taking language training in the U. S. were from DD/I.

2. I believe we can all be pleased with the widespread interest the Language Development Program has generated in foreign language study and with the impressive number of employees engaged in such study. At the same time, however, we must constantly re-examine this program to ensure that the mainstream of effort is responsive to changing Agency requirements. Specifically, I am concerned at the moment by:

a. The relatively small proportion of language students who are attaining really useful levels of proficiency.

b. The high ratio of individuals studying the common European languages and the correspondingly small number, or even absence, of students studying some of the important Afro-Asian languages.

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